

have the important responsibility of providing for, protecting, nurturing, teaching, and loving their children. On Parents' Day, we honor America's mothers and fathers and celebrate the values that bind families from one generation to the next and help define us as a Nation.

As a child's first teachers, parents are the most influential and effective instructors in a child's life. Through their words, actions, and sacrifices, parents are living examples for children. Young boys and girls watch their parents closely and imitate their behavior. Parents play a critical role in instilling responsibility, integrity, and other life lessons that shape the lives of America's future leaders.

My Administration is committed to supporting our Nation's families. We are working with faith-based and community organizations to promote healthy marriages, responsible parenting, and education. And we are committed to fully funding and supporting the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program, which helps strengthen family bonds, promote adoption, and provide help for vulnerable children across our country.

Volunteer service is one way parents can spend time with their children while encouraging them to learn the value of helping others. The USA Freedom Corps' "How I Spent My Summer" initiative includes volunteer opportunities where parents and children can work together to meet the needs of their communities. This initiative offers ideas such as collecting food for local food banks or school supplies for children in need. In addition, families can volunteer at one of our Nation's parks or recreation areas creating trails, assisting with archeological digs, or building and restoring houses. Teaching by example, parents can help their children become responsible citizens.

Parenting is one of the most rewarding and challenging endeavors in life. On this special day, we recognize the hard work and compassion of America's parents and celebrate the mothers and fathers who are positive role models for their children. I encourage parents to spend more time reading, talking, and volunteering with their children. I also urge parents to share the joys and wisdom of parenthood with new families in their commu-

nities and those planning families for the future.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States and consistent with Public Law 103-362, as amended, do hereby proclaim Sunday, July 27, 2003, as Parents' Day. I encourage all Americans to express their respect and appreciation to parents everywhere for their contributions to their children, families, communities, and our Nation. I also call upon citizens to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:57 a.m., July 29, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 30.

**Executive Order 13309—
Amendments to Executive Order
12994, and Renaming the President's
Committee on Mental Retardation
As the President's Committee for
People With Intellectual Disabilities
July 25, 2003**

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to change the name of the "President's Committee on Mental Retardation" to the "President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities" (the "Committee") and expand the membership of the Committee, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. The President's Committee on Mental Retardation is hereby renamed the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

Sec. 2. Executive Order 12994 of March 21, 1996, is hereby amended by deleting the words "mental retardation" and inserting the

words “intellectual disabilities” in lieu thereof throughout the text of that order, except in the title, the first line of the preamble, and section 1 of that order.

Sec. 3. Section 1 of Executive Order 12994 is amended by deleting the words “(the “Committee”)” and adding after “responsibilities,” the words “and renamed the President’s Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (the “Committee”),”.

Sec. 4. Section 2 of Executive Order 12994 is amended by inserting after “(5) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;” the following: “(6) The Secretary of Commerce; (7) The Secretary of Transportation; (8) The Secretary of the Interior; (9) The Secretary of Homeland Security;” and renumbering former subsections (6) through (9) as subsections (10) through (13).

Sec. 5. The Committee is continued until September 30, 2005.

George W. Bush

The White House,
July 25, 2003.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,
8:57 a.m., July 29, 2003]

NOTE: This Executive order will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 30.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President’s public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 19

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 20

In the afternoon, the President welcomed Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy to the Bush Ranch.

July 21

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President declared a major disaster in Nebraska and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on June 9 through July 14.

July 22

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with his Corporate Fraud Task Force to discuss progress in combating corporate fraud.

Later in the morning, the President met with his National Infrastructure Assurance Council to discuss progress in enhancing cyber security and the war on terrorism.

Also in the morning, the President communicated with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld concerning military operations in Iraq.

In the afternoon, at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel, the President made remarks at the Bush-Cheney ’04, Inc., National Finance Committee meeting.

Later in the afternoon, the President hosted Members of Congress at the White House to discuss constituent concerns and other issues.

In the evening, the President hosted a reception for Republican Members of Congress.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kerry N. Weems to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Management and Budget.

July 23

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with L. Paul Bremer III and Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld to discuss the situation in Iraq.

Later in the morning, in Room 450 at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the President made brief remarks to State and national student leaders of the National FFA Organization. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with former President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic.